Guidelines for diversion of Forest Land

3517. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued any guideliness for processing of proposals for diversion of forests land into non-forests purposes and for expeditious clearance of development projects that require less land and are directly relevant to the daily needs of the rural people and tribals ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the total area of forest land converted into non-forest land during the last one year in the country ;

(d) whether such a step of Government would not adversely affected in the environment ; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to delegate further powers to the Regional Chief Conservators of Forests of this Ministry for granting clearance to projects involving diversion of forest land upto 5 hectares and to make certain changes in the guidelines for expeditious examination of proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) During the Calandar year 1991, 625.21 hectares of forest land has been diverted for non-forest purposes in the country under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(d) No, Sir. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been diluted.

(e) Does not arise.

Sariska Wildlife Sancturay, Rajasthan

3518. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in accordance with the interlocutory order of the Supreme Court, mining activity in Rajasthan's Sariska Sanctuary was banned with effect from 31st December, 1991 till the demarcation of the protected areas as it has been, causing environmental deterioration in and around Sariska Tiger Reserve, seriously affecting its population ;

(b) if so, whether mining in the area has been stopped ; and

(c) if not, what steps have been taken by Government to check the unabated mining in Sariska Wild Life Sanctuary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) (i) Government of India, after assessing the considerable adverse environmental impact that has been caused to certain areas of the Aravalli Range on account of inappropriate developmental processes and operations including mining, have issued a preliminary notification under the Environ-

ment (Protection) Act, 1986, prohibiting the carrying out of such activities except with their prior permission.

(ii) Government of India have issued another preliminary notification under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 prohibiting, *inter alia*, expansion or modernisation of any existing or new mining projects, except with the prior approval of the concerned State Government/ Central Government. However, for such a project to be located near an environmentally sensitive area, the approval of the Government of India will be required.

Seminar on impact of Envir onment

3519. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar was organised recently at Udaipur on 15th-16th February, 1992 by the Indian Dairy Association on impact of environment and if so, what was the outcome thereof; and

(b) whether Government are aware that hardly any of the large Dairy Plants run by the NDDB and Amul Giant have any effieuent treatment plants and these plants dump untreated water in the open or in the public sewerage systems and if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The emphasis of the seminar was on technical and legal aspects of the dairy industry in the country. They recommended to the Government to take necessary action against the unlicensed units being operated in the country.

(b) The large units of NDDB located at Delhi and Calcutta and also of Amul Giant located at Anand are having adequate treatment plants.

World Jury to hear Indian water pollution cases

3520. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to a report publlished in the *Indian Express* of the 14th February, 1992 under the heading "World Jury to hear Indian water pollution cases" and state :

(a) what are the details of the cases which are to be considered by the World Jury Tribunal ;

(b) who is representing India before the World Jury ;

(c) what are the reasons for which Government failed to take appropriate action against the defaulting concerns ; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to check the water pollution in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government has not been informed about the forthcoming trial by the World Jury Tribunal reported in the *Indian Express* of February 14, 1992.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government have already taken a number of steps for control of pollution from industries includ-